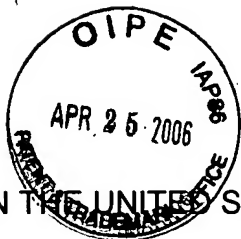


P24195.A07



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nobumasa SUZUKI

Group Art Unit: 3732

Appln. No. : 10/659,303

Examiner: Grace DOE

Filed : September 11, 2003

For : VERTEBRA BODY PLATE FOR VERTEBRAL COLUMN FIXING  
SYSTEM

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated January 25, 2006, setting a shortened three-month statutory period for response to expire on April 25, 2006, and further to the Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this document.